United Nations A/C.3/57/L.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
20 September 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session
Third Committee

Organization of the work of the Third Committee

Note by the Secretariat

Allocation of items

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Third Committee are listed in the letter from the President of the Assembly to the Chairperson of the Third Committee (A/C.3/57/1). Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (A/57/100 and Add.1).

Programme of work

2. The draft programme of work (see annex) has been prepared bearing in mind paragraph (b) of rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements agreed upon by the Assembly at the outset of its current session (A/57/250), relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Assembly on the rationalization of its work and that of the Third Committee, the schedule of related intergovernmental meetings and the availability of documentation, as well as past experience in the utilization of conference services.

Interactive dialogues and debates

3. In accordance with the established practice of the Committee, immediately following the introduction of reports by executive heads and senior members of the Secretariat at the beginning of each debate, time will be set aside for an interactive dialogue between these officials and members of the Committee as part of the formal proceedings. Delegations are invited to participate actively in these dialogues with questions and comments in an unscripted format. They are requested to withhold their prepared statements for the Committee's official debates immediately following the dialogues.

4. Under agenda items 105 (Promotion and protection of the rights of children), 107 (Elimination of racism and racial discrimination), 108 (Right of peoples to self-determination) and 109 (Human rights questions), time will likewise be set aside for dialogues with the special rapporteurs and representatives who will be reporting on their activities.

5. Under agenda item 109, it should be noted that delegations may make one statement each under sub-items (a) and (d), which are to be discussed separately.

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Delegations may also make two statements under sub-items 109 (b), (c) and (e), but they should not make two statements on any one of those sub-items.

List of documents

6. Attention is drawn to the note on the status of preparation of documentation submitted under the various agenda items allocated to the Third Committee (A/C.3/57/L.1/Add.1). Because of the critical need for the timely issuance of documentation, that note will be revised to update the information contained therein.

Length of statements

7. In accordance with established practice of the Committee, there are time limits on statements on all agenda items. The proposed time limit for statements in the general discussion of the various agenda items is seven minutes for delegations and 15 minutes for representatives of groups of delegations. Secretariat officials will also be limited to seven-minute statements, except when they deliver oral reports. In accordance with the decision of the General Assembly, delegations should exercise their right of reply at the end of the day whenever two meetings have been scheduled for the same day and both meetings are devoted to consideration of the same item. The first statement in exercise of the right of reply may be five minutes, and the second statement should be no longer than three minutes.

Conference facilities and meetings arrangements

8. Unless otherwise specified, meetings will be held at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. The General Assembly has reminded delegations that punctuality is of the utmost importance for ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations. As decided by the Assembly, the requirement that at least one quarter of the members of the Committee must be present to declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed has been waived.

Control and limitation of documentation

9. The Committee's attention is drawn to General Assembly resolution 50/206 C of 23 December 1995 on the control and limitation of documentation. The Secretariat wishes to emphasize, in particular, paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of that resolution, in which the Assembly requested, inter alia, restraint on the part of members of all intergovernmental bodies in making proposals containing requests for new reports.

Report of the Economic and Social Council

10. The Committee is reminded that, in accordance with a decision of the General Assembly, chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/57/3) are to be considered in conjunction with documentation under the relevant substantive agenda items, as well as under item 12.

Conclusion of the work of the Committee

11. Bearing in mind the allocation of the number of meetings available to the Third Committee and previous decisions of the General Assembly, the Assembly has set a target date of 20 November for the conclusion of its work.

Annex

Proposed programme of work of the Third Committee

Programme	*Documentation*
Thursday, 26 September	
3 p.m.	
Election of the Bureau and organization of work	
Week of 30 September-4 October	
Monday, 30 September	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	
Item 100. Crime prevention and criminal justice	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (including recommendations regarding the Eleventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders) (A/57/3) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/57/135) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Secretariat and addendum (A/57/152 and Add.1) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity (A/57/153) Report of the Secretary-General on the Eleventh Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/57/154) Report of the Secretary-General on prevention of corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and addendum (A/57/158 and Add.1)

Programme	*Documentation*
Item 101. International drug control	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/57/3) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session, including on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction (A/57/127)
1 p.m.	
Closure of list of speakers on items 100 and 101	
Tuesday, 1 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Items 100 and 101. General discussion (continued)	
Wednesday, 2 October	
10 a.m.	
Items 100 and 101. General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 100 and 101	
Thursday, 3 October	
3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	
Item 97. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (A/57/115)
Item 98. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/57/3) Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the tenth anniversary of International Year of the Family, 2004 (A/57/139 and Corr.1) Report of the Secretary-General on the International Year of Volunteers: outcomes and future perspectives (A/57/352)

Programme	*Documentation*
	Note by the Secretary-General on the preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, drawing attention to Economic and Social Council report E/CN.5/2002/2 (A/57/67-E/2002/45)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of UNESCO on an international plan of action for the United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all (A/57/218 and Corr.1)
Item 99. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing	Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing and on the full range of tasks of the Unit on Ageing of the Division for Social Policy and Development (A/57/93)
1 p.m.	
Closure of list of speakers on items 97, 98 and 99	
Friday, 4 October	
10 a.m.	
Items 97, 98 and 99. General discussion (continued)	
Week of 7 to 11 October	
Monday, 7 October	
3 p.m.	
Items 97, 98 and 99. General discussion (continued)	
Tuesday, 8 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Items 97, 98 and 99. General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 97, 98 and 99	
Wednesday, 9 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	

Programme	*Documentation*
Item 102. Advancement of women	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/57/3)
	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the work of its twenty-sixth session (A/57/38 (Part I))
	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the work of its exceptional session (A/57/38 (Part II))
	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the work of its twenty-seventh session (A/57/38 (Part III))
	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (A/57/38)
	Report of the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) (A/57/125)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the critical situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/57/129-E/2002/77)
	Report of the Secretary-General on working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour (A/57/169)
	Report of the Secretary-General on trafficking in women and girls (A/57/170)
	Comprehensive report by the Secretary-General on the elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (A/57/171)
	Report of the Working Group on the Future Operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) (A/57/330)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/57/406)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system

Programme	*Documentation*
Item 103. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"	**Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/57/3)**
	Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (A/57/286)
1 p.m.	
Closure of list of speakers on items 102 and 103	
Thursday, 10 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Items 102 and 103. General discussion (continued)	
Friday, 11 October	
10 a.m.	
Items 102 and 103 (concluded)	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 102 and 103	
3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	
Item 105. Promotion and protection of the rights of children	**Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (A/57/41)**
	Report of the Secretary-General on the rights of the child, containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto (A/57/295)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict on the situation of children affected by armed conflict

Programme	*Documentation*
Item 43. Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children	
1 p.m.	
Closure of list of speakers on items 105 and 43	
Week of 14-18 October	
Monday, 14 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Items 105 and 43. General discussion (continued)	
Tuesday, 15 October	
10 a.m.	
Items 105 and 43. General discussion (continued)	
Wednesday, 16 October	
10 a.m.	
Items 105 and 43. General discussion (continued)	
Thursday, 17 October	
10 a.m.	
Items 105 and 43. General discussion (concluded)	
3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	
Item 106. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations (A/57/296) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of the programme of activities for the Decade of the World's Indigenous People (A/57/395)
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 105 and 43	

Programme	*Documentation*
Week of 21 to 25 October	
Monday, 21 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Item 106. General discussion (concluded)	
1 p.m.	
Closure of list of speakers on item 106	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 106	
Wednesday, 23 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Item 107. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/57/3)
Item 107 (a). Elimination of racism and racial discrimination	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/57/18)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (A/57/83-E/2002/72)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on measures to combat contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (A/57/204)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/57/333)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (A/57/334)
Item 107 (b). Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, in cooperation with five independent experts

Programme	*Documentation*
Item 108. Right of peoples to self-determination	Report of the Secretary-General on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination (A/57/312)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination (A/57/178)
Thursday, 24 October	
10 a.m.	
Items 107 and 108. General discussion (continued)	
1 p.m.	
Closure of list of speakers on items 107 and 108	
Week of 28 October-1 November	
Monday, 28 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Items 107 and 108. General discussion (continued)	
Tuesday, 29 October	
3 p.m.	
Items 107 and 108. General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 107 and 108	
Wednesday, 30 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Item 109. Human rights questions	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery (A/57/308)
Item 109 (a). Implementation of human rights instruments	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/57/3)
	Report of the Human Rights Committee (A/57/40)
	Report of the Committee against Torture (A/57/44)

Programme	*Documentation*
	Report of the Secretary-General on the operations of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Victims of Torture (A/57/268)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (A/57/291)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (A/57/400)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies on their thirteenth meeting (A/57/56)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (A/57/173)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting reports of the chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies on their fourteenth meeting (A/57/399)
6 p.m.	
Closure of the list of speakers on item 109 (a)	
Thursday, 31 October	
3 p.m.	
Item 109 (a). General discussion (continued)	
Friday, 1 November	
10 a.m.	
Item 109 (a). General discussion (concluded)	
1 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 109 (a)	
1 p.m.	
Closure of the list of speakers on item 109 (d)	

Programme	*Documentation*
3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	
Item 109 (d). Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action	
Item 109 (d). General discussion	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 109 (d)	
Week of 4 to 8 November	
Monday, 4 November	
10 a.m.	
Item 109 (e). Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	
Item 109 (e). Dialogue with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	
3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with special rapporteurs and representatives and general discussion of:	
Item 109 (b). Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms	Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of migrants (A/57/134)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances (A/57/140)
	Report of the Secretary-General on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights (A/57/205) and addendum (A/57/205/Add.1)
	Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the rule of law (A/57/275)

Programme	*Documentation*
	Report of the Secretary-General on the role and achievements of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights (A/57/277)
	Report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (A/57/283)
	Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and cultural diversity and addendum (A/57/311 and Add.1)
	Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and extreme poverty (A/57/369)
	Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and unilateral coercive measures (A/57/371)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity (A/57/385)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (A/57/394)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar
	Report of the Secretary-General on comprehensive and integral international conventions to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (A/57/138)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative on human rights defenders (A/57/182)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (A/57/274)

Programme	*Documentation*
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (A/57/323)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food (A/57/356)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities (A/57/357)
Item 109 (c). Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative for human rights in Cambodia (A/57/230)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation in Sierra Leone (A/57/284)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (A/57/290)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on human rights of migrants (A/57/292)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan (A/56/309)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iraq (A/57/325)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan (A/57/326)
	Note by the Secretary-General on the human rights situation of Lebanese detainees in Israel (A/57/345)

Programme	*Documentation*
	Note by the Secretary-General on the mission report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and a Working Group member (A/57/349)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967 and addendum (A/57/366 and Add.1)
Item 109 (e). Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/57/36)
	Interim report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in East Timor
Tuesday, 5 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Item 109 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)	
1 p.m.	
Closure of list of speakers on item 109 (b), (c) and (e)	
Wednesday, 6 November	
3 p.m.	
Item 109 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)	
Thursday, 7 November	
10 a.m.	
Item 104. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions (introductory statement and dialogue)	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/57/3)
	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/57/12)
	Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa (A/57/324)

Programme	*Documentation*
	Report of the Secretary-General on the extension of the mandate of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees **Report of the Secretary-General on the new international humanitarian order**

3 p.m.

Item 109 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)

Friday, 8 November

10 a.m.

Item 109 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)

Week of 11 to 15 November

Monday, 11 November

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 109 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)

Tuesday, 12 November

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 109 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (concluded)

6 p.m.

Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 109 (b), (c) and (e)

Wednesday, 13 November

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 104. General discussion (continued)

1 p.m.

Closure of list of speakers on item 104

Programme	*Documentation*
Thursday, 14 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Action on draft proposals	
Friday, 15 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Item 104. General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 104	
Week of 18-22 November	
Monday, 18 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Action on draft proposals	
Tuesday, 19 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Action on outstanding draft proposals	
Wednesday, 20 November	
10 a.m.	
Item 12. Report of the Economic and Social Council	Report of the Economic and Social Council (A/57/3)
3 p.m.	
Conclusion of the work of the Third Committee	